



News & Events

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cal Poly Women's Center to Host Annual ReMEber Week April 16-23

SAN LUIS OBISPO –The Cal Poly Women's Center will host events both on and off campus during its annual ReMEber Week April 16-23 in an effort to raise awareness about sexual assault and violence against women.

Cal Poly's ReMEber program began in 1999 as a support network for survivors of sexual assault, and in remembrance of students Rachel Newhouse, Aundria Crawford and Kristin Smart, all victims of violence against women on the Central Coast.

This year's ReMEber Week for the first time includes a memorial event at the Jennifer Street Bridge in San Luis Obispo, where Cal Poly student Rachel Newhouse was attacked and abducted on Nov. 12, 1998.

"It's intended to be a time where the community can come together and collectively heal," said Jenn Yost, student organizer of the event. "We invite anyone who has a story to share to come and bring artwork, flowers or poetry to decorate the bridge as a community statement against this kind of crime."

All events are open to the public and most are free. "Our goal is to acknowledge the fact that these crimes occur on a regular basis and to come together as a community to offer support for survivors," said Maya Andlig, coordinator of gender and sexuality programs on campus.

Events scheduled for the week include:

Friday April 16

- Bridge Memorial – remembering victims and survivors of sexual assault and violence. (Jennifer St. Bridge, San Luis Obispo 4-6 p.m.)

Monday April 19

- "Violence in the Media" workshop – emphasizing the exploitation of "beauty, pornography and sadomasochism" the media. (University Union 220, 11 a.m.-noon.)
- Women's Empowerment and Self Defense Class – a women-only event focusing on assertiveness, awareness and defense techniques. (UU lounge, 6-10 p.m. Reservations \$10.)

Tuesday April 20

- Red Handprint Free Speech Hour – presenting statistics, stories, interactive booths and an art installation. (UU Plaza, 11 a.m.-noon.)
- Dating Violence in the LGBT Community – focusing on health issues relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender couples. (UU 218, 1-2 p.m.)
- Night Hike – hikers will paint Cal Poly's famous "P," located on the hill overlooking the campus, to commemorate the week. (Meet in the Women's Center, UU 217, at 5:15 p.m.)
- Lights Out, Speak Out – a women-only event asking students and community members to share their stories and experiences. (UU 217, 8-9 p.m.)

Wednesday April 21

- "Red Flags for Respectful Relationships" workshop – focusing and preparing faculty, students and staff to identify the warning signs of dating violence and how to respond. (UU 220, 11 a.m.-noon)
- Sexual Assault Round Table and Panel Discussion – a designated time to address questions, increase understanding and discuss the ways sexual assault and rape are handled in San Luis Obispo. (UU 220, 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.)

Thursday April 22

- Women's Day in the Plaza – a day of pampering, massage, aromatherapy and more. (UU Plaza, 11a.m.-1 p.m.)
- Take Back the Night rally, concert and barbecue – featuring musical performances by Magdalen Hsu-Li, and folk artist Dre. Also including slam poetry, the Body Image Project, body cast artwork and more (UU Plaza 5 p.m.-10 p.m.)

Friday April 23

- Sexual Assault Response Training – reservation required. Training course teaching the basics of being a supportive responder. (UU 220, 2-5 p.m. Call 756-2600 to reserve a space.)

For more information, contact the Cal Poly Women's Center at 756-2600 or visit the event Web site at <http://remember.calpoly.edu/>.

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